

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00166 151625Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2068

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 0166

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, DA, AU

SUBJECT: MEETING OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS IN DENMARK

JANUARY 18-19, 1976

REF: STATE 009009

1. AT THE LAST MINUTE PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN COULD NOT SEE ME THIS AFTERNOON (JAN 15), SINCE HE WAS DETAINED IN PARLIAMENT. E ASKED THAT I SEE HIS FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER GOTTLIEB, WHO HAD BEEN THE ONLY OTHER PERSON PRESENT DURING MY PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM ON THE HELSINGOR CONFERENCE. I THEN PROCEEDED TO BRIEF GOTTLIEB FOR MORE THAN 45 MINUTES ON CONTENTS OF REFTEL. HE TOOK NEARLY VERBATIM NOTES, BOTH ON THE OVERALL PHILOSOPHY OF THE AMERICAN POSITION, AS WELL AS OUR STAND ON SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF ITALY, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

2. GOTTLIEB SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY AGREED WITH US ON THE UNDESIRABILITY OF COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, PROBLEM IN ITALY IS COMPOUNDED BY THE INEPTNESS AND BANKRUPTCY OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS LEADERSHIP WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR COMMUNIST STRENGTH. HE SAID HE WOULD GIVE DETAILED BRIEFING TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND PROMISED TO GET SOME KIND OF A REACTION TO OUR THOUGHTS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER BEFORE BEGINNING OF THE WEEKEND.

(COMMENT: SINCE THE PRIME MINISTER'S ENGLISH LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED, I BELIEVE HAVING PHILOSOPHY AND SPECIFIC POINTS BRIEFED TO HIM BY GOTTLIEB IN DANISH WILL IMPROVE PRIME

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SECRET

PAGE 02 COPENH 00166 151625Z

MINISTER'S UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION.)

3. GOTTLIEB, WHO WAS TRAINED AT THE INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES IN LONDON, AND WHO IS A HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAT, SAID THAT ON BEHALF OF THE PRIME MINISTER HE WISHED TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE SECRETARY SHARING HIS THOUGHTS WITH HIM ON IMPORTANT ISSUES.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, PARTY LEADERS, MEETING REPORTS, DEBRIEFINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COPENH00166
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760015-0784
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760155/aaaabwrj.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 9009
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS IN DENMARK JANUARY 18-19, 1976
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, US, DA, AU, XG, (JORGENSEN, ANKER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006